

somebody will translate for you parts of our last year's annual report, which gives many details concerning our work during the whole decade. We gave almost 50,000 marks in six years to 558 sick and overworked nurses, 145 of them paid back about 14,000 marks. In the last year 16 nurses died, 12 of them only thirty-one to thirty-six years old, 2 were forty-two, and forty-three years old, and only 1 was fifty-one years old. Ten of them were in the profession from three to twelve years. It is a grim story and the increasing number of cases of illness does not make it less so.

Our Parliamentarians have talked in the Reichstag and in the Prussian Diet too, about Dr. Hecker's report, and the conditions of nursing, at different times at great length. Some of them put a good deal of heart and thankfulness into it, especially a fine man from Strassburg, who knows Dr. Hecker, and is one of our well-known professors of jurisprudence. He lost a son last year, and since then knows what the work of a nurse means to a patient and his family. But fruits there are none to be seen so far. It takes time, as you know, for governmental help to be accorded. May we live long enough to see it. No rest for us between, as you know well from your lifelong struggle.

With my whole heart I follow all things going on in your country, and long very much to be with you in Dublin in June. I am dreadfully sorry it is impossible, as my health does not allow me to think of it, even if my work would do so. For recreation I must translate the third volume of the "History" in, if possible, less time than the first ones, to finish it for Christmas.

Ever truly yours,

AGNES KARLL.

#### DISINFECTION IN TYPHOID CASES.

A correspondent sends us the following letter, which will be read with interest by those who have to deal with cases of typhoid fever. He writes: "Those in attendance on typhoid cases, not excluding trained nurses, often exhibit gross ignorance regarding the efficient use of disinfectants. Personally, I place reliance on Izal to keep the surroundings of the patient aseptic. Thus, I employ that preparation in a strength of 1 in 10 for the disinfection of enteric excreta. It has been shown, I believe, that a dilution of 1 in 100, or even 1 in 200, should be sufficient; but it is so important to render such excreta harmless as soon as possible, that I have preferred the stronger solution. For the disinfection of walls, furniture, &c., a dilution of 1 in 200 suffices; and this solution may also be used for the disinfection of soiled linen without fear of spoiling it. In the general cleaning of walls, floors, &c., I have found that the constant use of a 1 in 200 solution does not affect the hands of the staff employed for the purpose in a large fever hospital with which I was formerly connected."

## OUTSIDE THE GATES.

### WOMEN.

The Queen has become Patroness of Bedford College for Women (University of London) jointly with Queen Alexandra.

We are glad to note that the Faculty of Insurance recently formed to grant certificates of competence to officials of societies approved under the Insurance Act, has at last announced that women are not to be excluded, as was surmised by the fact that so far only men have been admitted as Fellows. We hope this omission will be speedily rectified, as there are many women competent to enter the higher branches of the insurance profession, who would willingly have their efficiency measured by the standard test, and who deserve the right to write F.F.I. after their names.

Mr. W. H. Dickinson, Member for St. Pancras, N., introduced into the House of Commons, on Thursday last week, "the Representation of the People (Women) Bill," which provides that women shall be entitled to be registered as Parliamentary electors on the same household qualification as men within the meaning of the Representation of the People Act, 1884, or who are wives of men entitled to be registered in respect of a household qualification.

The Bill "to provide for the temporary Discharge of Prisoners whose further detention in prison is undesirable on account of the condition of their health"—already widely known in the press as "the Cat and Mouse Bill," has been read a second time in the House of Commons. It is a thoroughly impracticable measure, as time will prove should it pass into law.

Mrs. Chapman Catt, the charming President of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance, will visit London on her way to Budapest to attend the International Women's Suffrage Congress in June; and the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is giving a Reception on Wednesday, May 7th, at Prince's Restaurant in her honour. Tickets for the Reception—which we hope will be a great success—may be obtained, price 5s. each, from the Secretary of the Society, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.

So far it has been stated that American women have not been subjected to the same indignities in their struggle for enfranchisement as Suffragists in this country, but as male nature is much the same all the world over when the question of the freedom of women's souls and bodies is concerned, we are not surprised to learn that the attempt made by "hoodlums" to wreck the great procession of women suffragists at Washington recently was quite on a par with the treatment

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